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United States Environmental Protection Agency Region V

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For Immediate Release: June 14, 1989

No. 89-M098

U.S. EPA CITES SATRALLOY, SATRA CONCENTRATES FOR PCB VIOLATIONS; SEEKS \$78,000 IN FINES

U.S. EPA Region 5 Environmental Sciences Division Director William H. Sanders III today announced the issuance of civil administrative complaints against Satralloy, Inc., and its sister corporation, Satra Concentrations, Inc., Steubenville, OH.

The complaints, filed under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), cite the companies for violating Federal regulations on polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) and seek fines totaling \$78,000. Satralloy is assessed a penalty of \$33,000; Satra Concentrates—\$45,000.

Satralloy is the owner and former operator of a facility at County Road 74, Goulds Road. Satra Concentrates leases a portion of the facility from Satralloy.

On December 14, 1988, a U.S. EPA inspector found at the facility 2 PCB transformers and 175 large high-voltage PCB capacitors owned by Satralloy and stored for reuse, plus 5 PCB transformers in service, owned by Satra Concentrates.

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Satralloy and Satra Concentrates are cited for the improper use, marking, and recordkeeping of their PCB items. Both companies failed to register their PCB transformers with local fire personnel, mark transformers and means of access to them with proper PCB labels, and develop and maintain complete annual records on the disposition of their PCB items.

Each company has 20 days from receipt of the complaint to file a formal response to the alleged violations. U.S. EPA may assess a civil penalty of up to \$25,000 per day for each violation,

"The potential for environmental harm is always present where PCB items are used or stored," Sanders said. "To ensure that the public's health and safety are not threatened, facilities must comply with the PCB regulations."

PCB's belong to a broad family of organic chemicals known as chlorinated hydrocarbons. They are toxic, extremely stable, and have been widely used in transformers, capacitors, hydraulic systems, heat transfer systems, and as insulating fluid in other electrical equipment.

U.S. EPA banned the manufacture of PCB's in 1979 because of their toxicity and persistence in the environment.

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